



## NEWS RELEASE

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## Woman Sentenced for Attacking Tourist at Santa Monica Coffee House

A 40-year-old woman entered a no contest plea today for attacking a female tourist sitting with her family at a coffee shop in Santa Monica, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Deputy District Attorney Eva Jabber Stodel said Sara Christine Rizo of Redondo Beach entered the plea to one count of felony assault by means likely to produce great bodily injury.

Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Mark Windham of the Airport Branch immediately sentenced Rizo to 494 days in county jail, already served, five years formal probation, one year of residential psychiatric treatment. The judge also ordered Rizo to stay out of any coffee houses and to pay restitution to the victim in the amount of \$9,500.

On June 9, 2015, Rizo went into a coffee shop at 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and Santa Monica Boulevard and began yelling profanities, the prosecutor said. Rizo later grabbed a customer by her hair and yanked it backward, causing the victim to fall and suffer a fractured vertebrae in her neck, the prosecutor added.

Case SA090638 was investigated by the Santa Monica Police Department.

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### [About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#)

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.